(c) and (d) The US Government has taken note of India's concerns. The US Secretary of State, speaking at the "Synergies Summit" hosted by the US Indian Business Council in Washington on 17 June, 2009 said "President Obama has been clear that the United States has learned the lessons of the past. We will not use the global financial crisis as an excuse to fall back on protectionism. We hope India will work with us to create a more open, equitable set of opportunities for trade between our nations."

(e) Indians, like all others in the USA, have been affected by the recession in that country, which has resulted in an unemployment rate of 9.8% by June, 2009 in the USA.

G8-G5 summit in Italy

2917. SHRI D. RAJA:
SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had attended the recent G8-G5 summit in Italy;

(b) if so, the details of the discussion took place and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether he had taken up the question of reforming the international institutions like United Nations and our demand for a permanent seat on the UN security council with the countries participated in the summit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) Yes. Prime Minister attended the recent G8-Outreach Summit in L'Aquila, Italy on 8-10 July, 2009.

(b) Various Sessions of the G8-Outreach countries' Summit focused on different themes. One Session on the first day discussed global issues and development policies. This was followed by discussion on future sources of growth. Other Sessions were devoted to trade matters and climate change. The next day's Session covered food security. The G-8-Outreach Summit adopted a Joint Declaration ['Promoting the Global Agenda'] and a Joint Statement on Food Security ['L'Aquila Joint Statement on Global Food Security'] and as MEF (Major Economies Forum) adopted a Declaration on Energy and Climate ['Declaration of the Leaders the Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate'].

(c) Amongst the assembled Leaders, the discussions covered the restructuring of international organizations dealing with issues such as food security, energy security and recovery of growth. L'Aquila Summit meetings were devoted to them. As such, UN Security Council reforms did not specifically feature in the discussions.

(d) Does not arise.